

MEMORANDUM

Joint Committee on Finance Executive Session
Wednesday, October 29, 1997

(Special Note: 1st JFC meeting since Rep. Cloyd Porter was re-instated)

AB 551/SB 316 - Federal Internal Revenue Code Update

- Recommendation: Approve with one FB technical amendment, and one Burke/Jensen amendment to extend changes beyond tax year 1997.
- Bill History
 - AB 551 - Introduced 10/9 by M. Lehman/Burke; Jt Com on Tax Exemption has not acted on bill yet.
 - SB 316 - Introduced 10/8 by Burke/M. Lehman; voted out of Com on Economic Development, Housing & Gov Ops 5-0 on 10/28. Also, Jt. Com on Tax Exemptions voted today to recommend the bill 7-0.

AB 565/SB323 - Worker's Compensation Changes

- Recommendation: Approve with no amendments
- Bill History
 - AB 565 - Introduced 10/17 by Vrakas/Plache; voted out of Labor & Employment Com 10-0 on 10/28.
 - SB 323 - Introduced on 10/15 by Plache/Vrakas; voted out of Com on Labor, Transportation & Financial Institutions 7-0 on 10/28.

AB 571/SB 327 - Unemployment Compensation Changes

- Recommendation: Approve with no amendments
- Bill History
 - AB 571 - Introduced 10/17 by Vrakas/Plache; voted out of Labor & Employment Com 10-0 on 10/28.
 - SB 327 - Introduced 10/22 by Plache/Vrakas; voted out of Com on Labor, Transportation & Financial Institutions 7-0 on 10/28.

SB 335/AB 583 - Budget Provisions Affecting Legislature

- Recommendation: Approve (too much power concentrated in Executive Branch. ***See MJS article attached***)
- * (note: LRB says a Fiscal Note is needed, so LFB is providing a supplemental Fiscal Note - which Sklansky says is ok)

**Joint Committee on Finance
Executive Session
January 20, 1998**

SB 39 Rude/Dobyns

Relating to: stopping at railroad crossings, reckless driving at railroad crossings and providing penalties.

Note: FB raises one potential problem with the bill as it is drafted. The revenue generated by the fines would be directed to the transportation fund. However, the Wisconsin Constitution requires that "clear proceeds" from fines from violations of state law be directed to the common school fund. The possibility of a legal challenge to this exists. Senator Rude's office has provided information on creating an assessment on these penalties. You have a copy of the amendment which Sen. Panzer will likely offer.

SB 147 Weeden/Musser

Relating to regulating water or sewer service provided to occupants of mobile home parks, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority and providing a penalty.

Note: FB makes a case for three possible amendments to this bill. They all seem to make pretty good sense. The first would provide only three months funding for FY 1998-1999 since the sub provides for a delayed effective date. The second would authorize the position as a project position through June 30, 2001. The third would direct that 90% of the total amounts assessed against mobile park operators would be created to the new PR appropriation and 10% of the total amounts assessed would be deposited to the general fund as GPR-earned. As of 1pm, Sen. Weeden's office is okay with the first two amendments, but is still checking on #3.

SB 180 Shibilski/Gunderson

Relating to: the sale of advertising space in folded highway maps, the sale of highway service maps and making an appropriation.

Note: FB doesn't raise any issues with the bill as drafted.

SB 271 Jauch/Kaufert

Relating to: exempting certain resident students from tuition at the University of Wisconsin System and at the technical college system.

Note: FB doesn't raise any major issues with the bill. Basically it would expand the current tuition remission provision for the children of slain correctional officers, fire fighters or police officers to grant full remission also to a surviving spouse.

SB 321 Adelman/Huebsch

Relating to: increasing the number of circuit court branches.

Note: Fiscal Bureau had no major problems with the bill. They do note that if the positions are not authorized in the bill, some delay in court staffing could occur. The bill will create a new circuit court branch for Milwaukee County, as well as two court reporters. You should note that the Rock County Board voted to not support the addition of a branch in that county. As a result, Sen. Decker will have an amendment to add Marathon County to the mix.

SB 366 Freese/Kreuser
AB 633 Freese/Wirch

Relating to: nonresident individual income tax reciprocity with the state of Illinois and making appropriations.

Note: Kenosha residents support this, but other bordering communities, like Beloit, have not expressed formal support. Gard and Sec. Zueske are on opposite sides on this issue. Sen. Cowles may have an amendment here.

AB 227 Schneider/Wirch

Relating to: the use of a person's social security number in his or her student identification number.

Note: Again, FB has no real problems with the bill. It seems fairly non-controversial.

AB 382 Underheim/Wirch

Relating to the regulation and licensure of podiatrists, abolishing the podiatry examining council and creating a podiatrists affiliated credentialing board, granting rule-making authority and providing a penalty.

Note: This is the companion to SB 258 which passed the Senate last week. SB 258 was never referred to JFC, and I'm not sure why the Assembly wanted to refer its companion.

AB 540 Gard/Shibilski

Relating to the expenditure of \$845,399 from the general fund for payment of claims against the state made by 11 claimants in connection with fees paid to the department of natural resources for review of hydroelectric facility proposals.

Note: This is Gard's claim bill which he agreed would be voted down. As you know, the Claims Board denied this claim in August of 1996 at the recommendation of the DNR. That agency says

that if the Board would have recommended an award, a more appropriate amount would be \$285,828. Sen. Cowles has expressed an interest in awarding this lesser amount to save the state money should the suit be successful. However, you voted once to deny the claim, and the agreement from Gard was that it would be voted down so the claimant's lawsuit could be expedited.

AB 581 Sykora/Moen

Relating to: the supplemental food program for women, infant and children and making an appropriation.

Note: This bill will provide an increase in nutrition services and administration grants to all WIC agencies. FB notes that the funding in the bill should be sufficient to increase the average monthly per capita payment by \$0.47 as of January 1, 1998. You have received many calls from WIC nutritionists and project directors urging your support.

SB 285 Clausing/Johnsrud
AB426 Dobyys/Breske

Relating to the intoxicated boating law...

Note: These two bills make changes to boat registration, titling and safety laws. I spoke with Randy from Sen. Clausing's office, and he did not recommend any further changes to the bill. However, City of Milwaukee has one amendment, which you have agreed to offer, making a change to the emergency powers clause in the bill.

The section of the bill relating to emergency powers was included to allow counties to exercise emergency powers to bar, restrict or remove unnecessary boats from a navigable water during an emergency. Currently, municipalities have this authority. DNR says that they did not intend to grant this power to the counties exclusively, they just want to add counties to the mix. As drafted, the county authority would supersede that of the municipality. Your amendment would ensure that the municipalities retain their current authority and add counties to the list of those governments who have the emergency power. Sen. Clausing is fine with this.

Steve Jacquart has provided some talking points, attached, and John Stolzenberg from Leg. Council provided us with a memo on the issue. See the highlighted portions for support.

Also, LRB has some technical changes. These are also included in your amendment.

Finally, Sen. Cowles may offer an amendment which would require jet skis to operate at no wake speeds within 200 feet of a shoreline, pier or raft. Bill O'Connor called to urge your support of this amendment.

**Joint Committee on Finance
Executive Session
February 10, 1998**

You will chair the following portions of the meeting:

SB 259 – Public Library Lending Incentive Aid

✓
• Recommendation

Support bill in its current form (i.e., with standing committee amendment).

• Bill History

Introduced on 7/10/97 by Legislative Council; voted out of Senate Education Committee 6-1 on 9/30/97 with one amendment (SA 2), adopted 7-0. The Committee rejected SA 1 (7-0).

• Executive Action Needed

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Adopt Senate Amendment 2.
Recommend passage as amended.

• Note

Sen. Potter and Leg. Council attorney Bill Ford are both present to speak about the bill. You should be aware that MCFLS is not supportive of this bill because it doesn't provide a level of reimbursement that they consider adequate to cover the services provided by MPL. Also, they are concerned that local agreements for reimbursement levels will have to be re-negotiated. The City is okay with it, and although the reimbursement level is not enough to fully cover loan services for libraries like MPL, it's better than nothing at all. It will allow the City to cover the services, less \$.50 per loan.

Also, you could mention that today is the Wisconsin Library Association's Legislative Day, and thank any librarians for coming to watch the proceedings etc.

✓
SB 269 – Public Library Funding

• Recommendation

Support bill in its current form (i.e, with standing committee amendments).

• Bill History

Introduced 8/5/97 by Legislative Council; voted out of Senate Education Committee 7-0 on 9/30/97 with two amendments (SA 1 and SA 2), both adopted 7-0. Sen. Potter introduced Senate Amendment 3 on 10/1/97, but the Education Committee did not act on it.

• Executive Action Needed

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Adopt Senate Amendment 1

Adopt SA 4 →

Adopt Senate Amendment 2.
Adopt Senate Amendment 3 (note: this is Sen. Potter's amendment,
which was introduced after his committee acted on the bill.)
Recommend passage as amended.

- **Note**

This bill makes a fairly good attempt at funding libraries at a higher level than present, requiring DPI to request funding for library aids equal to 13% of total operating expenditures in the next budget cycle. You can mention that there has been some interest expressed to you to consider ways to change the formula used to fund libraries statewide, and it may be worth considering during the next budget debate. However, you support this effort at getting some much needed funding to our public libraries, and Leg. Council/Sen. Potter should be commended for putting so much work into the bill.

SB 166 – Medical Assistance Treatment of Interest Expenses

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

Card opposed

- **Bill History**

Introduced on 4/16/97 by Grobschmidt/Notestein; voted out of Senate Health Committee 7-0 on 11/4/97; referred to JFC on 11/4/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

There are no standing committee amendments to the bill.
Act on any amendments introduced today.
Take a final vote for passage.

- **Note**

Fiscal Bureau does not raise any major concerns with the bill as drafted. You should note that its passage will increase MA payment rates to two nursing homes in Milwaukee (St. John's and Sunrise Care Center.) Dennis Gralinski, President of Sunrise Care, will be present at the meeting and supports the bill.

Senate Bill 315 – Collection of Health Care Data by OHCI

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form (i.e., with standing committee amendments).

- **Bill History**

Introduced 10/8/97 by Legislative Council; voted out of Senate Health Committee 5-0 on 1/15/98 with one substitute amendment and four amendments to the sub. (SSA 1, SA 1 to SSA 1, SA 1 to SA 1 to SSA 1, SA 2 to SSA 1, SA 3 to SSA 1), all were adopted 5-0. Sen. Roessler introduced SA 4 to SSA 1 on 1/21/97, but the Health Committee did not act on it.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Adopt Senate Substitute Amendment 1.
Act on any amendments introduced today.
Senate Amendment 1 to Senate Amendment 1 to SSA 1.

- ② Adopt Senate Amendment 1 to SSA 1 (as amended, maybe).
 - ③ Adopt Senate Amendment 2 to SSA 1.
 - ④ Adopt Senate Amendment 3 to SSA 1. *(Gard LRB 1641 replaces this.)*
 - ⑤ Adopt Senate Amendment 4 to SSA 1.
- Recommend passage as amended.

- **Note**

You requested a fiscal note from DHFS for this bill. Their note was completed last week, and it indicated passage would have a minimal fiscal effect on the Department. Sen. Rosenzweig will have some amendments that require health care plans to be in the program before they can request the physician specific data, the use of a weighting methodology in ranking them, the restriction of the release of doctor specific information. MCOW, DeanCare, United Health Plan, Emergency Physicians and Family Physicians all support these amendments. State Medical Society is okay in general with them, but has some reservations. Also,

Rep. Albers may have an amendment seeking GPR funding. Also, Cindy talked at length with Missy from Sen. Moen's office to find out what Sen. Moen supports, but Missy was short on details.

Senate Bill 325 – Funeral Expenses for Recipients of Public Assistance Benefits

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

*- Gard amendment to cut increases in half.
- LFB funding amendment.*

- **Bill History**

Introduced 10/15/97 by Moen/Underheim; voted out of Senate Health Committee 7-0 on 11/4/97 with no amendments.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Take a final vote for passage.

- **Note**

Fiscal Bureau does not raise any major concerns with the bill.

Senate Bill 330 – Probate Filing Fees

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form (i.e., with standing committee amendment--SSA 1).

- **Bill History**

Introduced 10/22/97 by Huelsman/Green; Senate Substitute Amendment 1 voted out of Senate Judiciary Committee 5-0 on 11/18/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Adopt SSA 1.
Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend passage as amended.

- **Note**

Fiscal Bureau does not raise any major concerns with the bill.

Senate Bill 333/Assembly Bill 579 – Certified Capital Companies

- **Recommendation**

Support bills as drafted (i.e., with standing committee amendments) and **with your amendments.**

- **Bill History**

SB 333 was introduced on 10/29/97 by Moore/Ward; voted out of Senate Housing Committee 4-0 on 1/20/98 with two amendments (SA 1 and SA 2), both were adopted 4-0.

AB 579 was introduced on 10/29/97 by Ward/Moore; voted out of Assembly Financial Institutions Committee 14-0 on 12/30/97 with two amendments (AA1 and AA 2), both were adopted 14-0.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Adopt SA 1/AA 1.

Adopt SA 2/AA 2.

Introduce and adopt LRB a1568/LRB a1600 (i.e. yours/Sklansky amendment).

Act on any amendments introduced today.

Move passage as amended.

- **Note**

You are introducing an amendment which was suggested by Ron Sklansky at Leg. Council. Tim Elverman and Sen. Moore both support this amendment. As drafted, the bill would allow the Department of Commerce to grant qualified business status to any business, even if it does not meet the eight requirements outlined in the bill. Commerce may determine a business qualified by simply determining that it will further state economic development. Furthermore, if the Department fails to issue a written opinion on whether a proposed business is a qualified business within 10 days of a request for one, the business is then qualified.

Your amendment would delete both provisions of the bill. In effect, the amendment would force the Department to issue a written opinion, one way or the other, to determine whether a business is qualified. Under your amendment, there would be no time line for the Department to respond. Your amendment also takes away the authority of the department to designate a business as qualified, even if it does not meet the requirements.

In addition, SA 2/AA 2 addresses some other concerns that Ron raised in his memo to you. Primarily, it would require a qualified business to keep its headquarters in Wisconsin as long as it holds the investment.

Assembly Bill 117 – Eligibility for Group Health Insurance for State Employees

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

Introduced on 2/18/97 by Harsdorf/Rosenzweig; voted out of Assembly Government Operations Committee 9-0 on 4/17/97; referred to Rules on 4/17/97; passed full Assembly on 5/28/97; referred to Senate Health Committee on 5/29; voted out of Senate Health 7-0 on 11/4/97; referred to JFC in the Senate on 11/18/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend concurrence.

- **Note**

Fiscal Bureau does not seem to have any major concerns with the bill as drafted.

Assembly Bill 223 – Farmland Preservation Tax Credit

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

Introduced on 3/27/97 by Otte/Clausing; ASA 1 voted out of Assembly Committee on Agriculture 14-0 on 6/10/97; referred to Rules on 6/10/97; ASA 1 adopted by full Assembly on 9/24/97; Senate Agriculture Committee concurred 5-0 on 11/14/97; referred to JFC in the Senate on 11/19/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend concurrence.

- **Note**

Fiscal Bureau does not raise any major concerns with the bill, and Barry thinks it's fine.

Assembly Bill 279 – Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board

- **Recommendation**

Support the bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

Introduced on 4/11/97 by La Fave/Huelsman; voted out of Committee on Children and Families 9-0 on 5/6/97; referred to Rules on 5/6/97; Assembly Amendment 1 adopted by full Assembly on 5/28/97; passed as amended by full Assembly on 5/28/97; voted out of Senate Health Committee 5-0 on 10/22/97; referred to JFC in the Senate on 11/18/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend concurrence.

- **Note**

This sounds like a great plan to help increase contributions to the children's trust fund, and LFB doesn't raise any major problems with the bill.

Representative Gard should chair from this point forward.

Senate Bill 25/Assembly Bill 66 – School Aid Distribution Schedule

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

SB 25 was introduced on 1/28/97 by Plache/Ladwig; Senate Substitute Amendment 1 was introduced and adopted by the Senate Education Committee 7-0 on 5/7/97; Senate Amendment 1 to SSA 1 offered by Sen. Plache and adopted by full Senate on 5/20/97; passage recommended by full Senate on 5/20/97 and messaged to the Assembly; referred to Assembly Ways and Means on 5/27; withdrawn from Ways and Means and referred to Assembly Education Committee on 5/28/97; report concurrence recommended by Assembly Education Committee 9-4 on 6/10/97; referred to Rules on 6/10/97; referred to JFC on 6/10/97.

AB 66 was introduced on 2/10/97 by Ladwig/Plache; referred to Assembly Education Committee on 2/10/97; rules suspended to withdraw from Education and refer to JFC on 2/4/98.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Adopt SSA 1.

Adopt SA 1 to SSA 1.

Act on any amendments introduced today.

Recommend passage as amended.

Note: If you want to pass the Assembly companion, direct LFB to draft companion amendments and recommend passage.

- **Note**

Fiscal Bureau does not raise any major issues with the bill.

Assembly Bill 355 – Notices of Changed Assessments

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

Introduced on 5/13/97 by Albers/Schultz; ASA 1 adopted by Assembly Ways and Means Committee 15-1 on 10/30/97; passage as amended recommended by Ways and Means 9-7 on 10/30/97; referred to JFC in Assembly on 10/30/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Adopt ASA 1.

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend passage as amended.

- **Note**

City of Milwaukee Assessor's office had some major concerns upon introduction of this bill. They were concerned that its passage would create a burdensome notification process on the assessors and could potentially place major costs on local government. However, the Milwaukee Assessors have been working with Rep. Albers on the bill and have gotten some exceptions for first class cities that will help Milwaukee. As such, they are now supportive of the bill with an amendment to be offered by Rep. Albers at the meeting today. I talked to Laurie Kuiper from the City who says its okay to support with the Albers amendment.

Assembly Bill 496 - Counting OWI Offenses for the Calculation of Penalties

- **Recommendation**

1/aid aside
This seems a bit harsh and it came out of Committee on a very close vote. Barry says to not support it, but you can wait to see what others do in Committee. These mistakes probably shouldn't follow people around forever (beyond 10 years), but whatever you think is fine with us.

- **Bill History**

Introduced on 9/2/97 by Olsen/Drzewiecki; voted out of Assembly Highways Committee 7-5 on 12/4/97 with one amendment, (AA 1), adopted 12-0; referred to JFC in Assembly 12/23/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Act on AA 1.
Recommend passage or rejection.

*=> LFB has technical amendments
1/aukt amendment?*

- **Note**

See notes under "Recommendation" section.

Assembly Bill 566 - Sales and Use Tax Late Filing Fees

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

Introduced on 10/17/96 by Hahn/Rude; voted out of Assembly Ways and Means 14-1 on 12/30/97; referred to JFC in Assembly 12/30/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend passage.

- **Note**

This sounds like a fine idea. The bill would increase the penalty from \$10 to \$30 and would raise some extra revenue for the state.

Assembly Bill 577 - "Chemical Castration"

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

Introduced by Kaufert/Lasee on 10/28/97; voted out of the Assembly Criminal Justice Committee 12-1 on 11/24/97; referred to JFC in the Assembly on 11/24/97.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend passage.

- **Note**

You might want to ask about the funding source for the bill. Does the bill make an appropriation or does JFC have to add a funding mechanism? LFB doesn't raise any major concerns about the bill, but you may want to get more information about the funding.

Assembly Bill 744/ Senate Bill 410 - Bonding Authority

- **Recommendation**

Support bill in its current form.

- **Bill History**

SB 410 was introduced on 1/20/98 by Burke/Gard; it was referred directly to JFC.
AB 744 was introduced on 1/27/98 by Gard/Burke; it was referred to Rules on 1/29/98; on 2/4/98 it was withdrawn from Rules and referred to JFC.

- **Executive Action Needed**

Act on any amendments introduced today.
Recommend passage.

- **Note**

Barry met with Linda Seemeyer from DOA and staff from LFB about this bill. They recommended that the Co-Chairs introduce these bills to allow the state to take advantage of some low interest rates. You can ask LFB to give a more detailed information if you wish.

A1
B2a